

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A trim press article handling apparatus includes a frame, a punch, a die, and a treadle. The punch is carried by the frame. The die is carried by the frame and cooperates in relative movement with the punch to sever articles from a web. The treadle is carried for movement relative to the die. The treadle includes a web guide member, a primary guide strip spaced from the guide member slightly greater than a thickness of the web, a secondary guide strip spaced from the guide member at least four thicknesses of the web and spaced apart from the primary guide strip, and an article detector carried by at least one of the primary guide strip and the secondary guide strip. The article detector is operative to detect position of an article in the web by detecting the position of a protuberance in the web as the protuberance is conveyed between the primary guide strip and the secondary guide strip. A method is also provided.